

## BRIGHT FOR TAFT SING HORN' SONG

President's Friends Apparently  
In Control Here.Insurgents Make Bitter Fight  
in State Committee.

## WANT A STATE CONVENTION

Date Will Probably Be Fixed  
for May 7.Dolley Primary Plan Is on the  
Rocks.

When the Republican state committee met at 3 o'clock this afternoon the indications were that the Taft men were in control of the meeting. They claimed 56 votes more than enough for a working majority. Their program was to call a state convention at Topeka May 7 and to pass resolutions endorsing the Taft administration and favoring the president's renomination. It is almost certain that this program will go through without a hitch. The Taft men have the votes. The Roosevelt supporters admitted at noon today that their only chance was to keep proxies from voting and they did not believe they had the votes to do that.

All trains from the west into Topeka were late last night on account of snowdrifts and western members of the state committee did not arrive until today. Sentiment expressed early today in regard to the probable action of the committee this evening was strongly in favor of the convention over the primary plan. In fact, a poll of the committee members present developed the fact that fifty-four were for the convention. This is over half of the 106 members, and a majority even if all should be present at the meeting.

The Taft men have been active for several days and have secured a large number of proxies from committee members who cannot come to Topeka to attend the meeting. Taft men are claiming the committee for the president and declare that the primary plan will not have a chance at the regular meeting.

District Action Has Influence. The action of the First, Second, Third and Seventh congressional committees in calling conventions will also have its effect on the deliberations of the committee. The chief of the obstacle in the way of the primary plan without a law behind it is the cost. The county chairmen have no funds with which to print the ballots and rent polling places and pay the scores of incidental expense bills attendant upon the holding of a primary. With this fact staring them in the face the committee members hesitate to call a primary on general principles and trust to providence to pay the bills.

In spite of snow storms and bad train service the attendance today at the committee meeting was large. Republican leaders from every congressional district, and a number of Democrats to promote the interests of their candidate for the presidency. For every committee member present there were two Republicans. The National hotel was a hive of political industry all day. The lines between the Roosevelt and Taft men were more sharply drawn today than they have been for some time. The Roosevelt men are full of fight and confidence. With four congressional committees out of eight behind them they are claiming the state. Kansas, the home of one of the original Roosevelt governors, for Taft. They declare that while Stubbs was in the east and north making Roosevelt speeches and preventing Roosevelt from coming to the state, the Roosevelt men were wheeling into the Taft column.

The fight today between the insurgents and the regulars was not one-sided by any means. The Roosevelt men made open charges that the Taft men had secured proxies by the wholesale, using both fair means and foul. The charge postmasters and federal office holders with resorting to old machine methods to muzzle public sentiment. Governor Stubbs was yesterday. The governor named the following postmasters and federal appointees who had formed a lobby to eliminate the primary plan: John Weltmer of Hlawatha, W. D. Casey of Atchison, John H. Tucker of Leavenworth and A. B. Burdick of Nortonville.

Stubbs Wires Protest to Taft. The governor sent the following message of protest to President Taft: Topeka, Kan., March 13, 1912.

"Hon. Wm. H. Taft,  
"President of the United States,  
Washington, D. C.

"Your representatives and political managers in Kansas are using every means in their power to prevent presidential primaries being held in this state. The caucus system of election, which they propose to use to secure delegates for you at the national convention at Chicago will disfranchise fully 90 percent of the Republican voters of Kansas.

"Federal patronage is being dangled before the eyes of committee members and thoroughly disreputable methods are being used to influence the election of delegates favorable to you. The state central committee meets in Topeka tomorrow for the purpose of calling a direct primary election for the state. In order to discredit this movement, which, in my opinion, is favored by 95 out of every 100 Republicans in Kansas, four congressional district committees, whose chairmen are under the control of your political managers, called meetings today to arrange for district conventions without primaries. At the first district committee meeting a lobby consisting of the following federal appointees, to-wit: Casey, Biddle, Swallow, Tucker, Burdick and Weltmer, were present advocating the elimination of primaries. In the second congressional district the Kansas City, Kan. and Paola postoffices are being used to

Wilson Democrats Admit Clark  
Victory, but Fight On.Initiative and Referendum Fav-  
ored in Clark Resolutions.

## JACKSON URGES INSTRUCTION

Frank Thomas Loses Place  
Sought as Delegate.Currency Reform, Primaries  
and Recall Demanded.

Hutchinson, Kan., March 14.—As State Chairman H. S. Martin called the Democratic convention to order at noon today a great hound dog, owned by Koon C. Beck, sheriff of Reno county, was sent scurrying across the platform by the boot of some enthusiastic Democrat and while the dog emitted howls the convention band struck up the Ozark dog song adopted by Clark men and the delegates, bubbling over with enthusiasm, launched into the homely strains of "You've Gotta Quit Kickin' My Dog Around."

Ex-Congressman A. M. Jackson of  
Winfield, Chairman of the Demo-  
cratic State Convention.

After A. M. Jackson, temporary chairman, had delivered an address urging that either Clark or Wilson instructions be given the delegates at-large, and the appointment of the usual committee, adjournment was taken until 3 o'clock. It was apparent the Clark men were safely in control and while the Wilson men had not yet given up the fight, they were admitting that the Clark men would control the convention by few votes.

The eight congressional district delegations held their caucuses today, the following delegates being chosen:

First—J. W. Orr, Atchison; W. D. Kuhn, Holton, instructed for Clark.

Second—C. C. Greene, Wyandotte; John Caldwell, Fort Scott, instructed for Clark.

Third—Frank Comisky, Pittsburg; Isaac Thomas, Labette county, no instructions.

Fourth—R. D. Carpenter, Marion; M. A. Lindbacker, Burlington, no instructions.

Fifth—Jacob Hostettler, Belleville; Michael Fry, Junction City, instructed for Wilson.

Sixth—Meets this afternoon.

Seventh—To come.

Eighth—J. J. Fitzpatrick, Wichita; Robert Bradford, Eldorado, no instructions.

Presidential electors:

First—Dr. L. H. McGill, Nemaha county.

Second—S. C. Bybee, Anderson county.

Third—Alfred G. Wooster, Erie.

Fourth—Charles Gantz, Mervin.

Fifth—H. R. Fulton, Hanover.

Sixth—J. J. Fitzpatrick, Wichita; Robert Bradford, Eldorado, no instructions.

Seventh—To come.

Eighth—J. J. Fitzpatrick, Wichita; Robert Bradford, Eldorado, no instructions.

The temporary organization was made permanent.

If the convention adopts a plank endorsing Clark the sixteen congressional delegates will follow the instructions given the delegates at large and Kansas' twenty votes at Baltimore will go to Clark. If there are no instructions the delegates will follow the instructions given their caucus instructions or if none were given they will cast their vote at Baltimore as they see fit.

Two sets of resolutions may be presented to the convention, one drawn by the Clark men and the other by the Wilson adherents. The Clark men prepared theirs this morning. As read to the convention this afternoon they will declare:

"Recognizing in the present speaker of the National house of representatives the legislative and executive ability which helped the country to secure a Democratic majority in congress, we declare that the honorable Champ Clark of Missouri, is our choice for president and we hereby instruct the 20 delegates from Kansas to the Baltimore convention to vote for him as long as three-fifths of the delegates believe his nomination to be possible. And the 20 delegates are further instructed that in all matters coming before the National Democratic convention of 1912, they shall vote as a unit, as the three-fifths majority of the said delegates may direct."

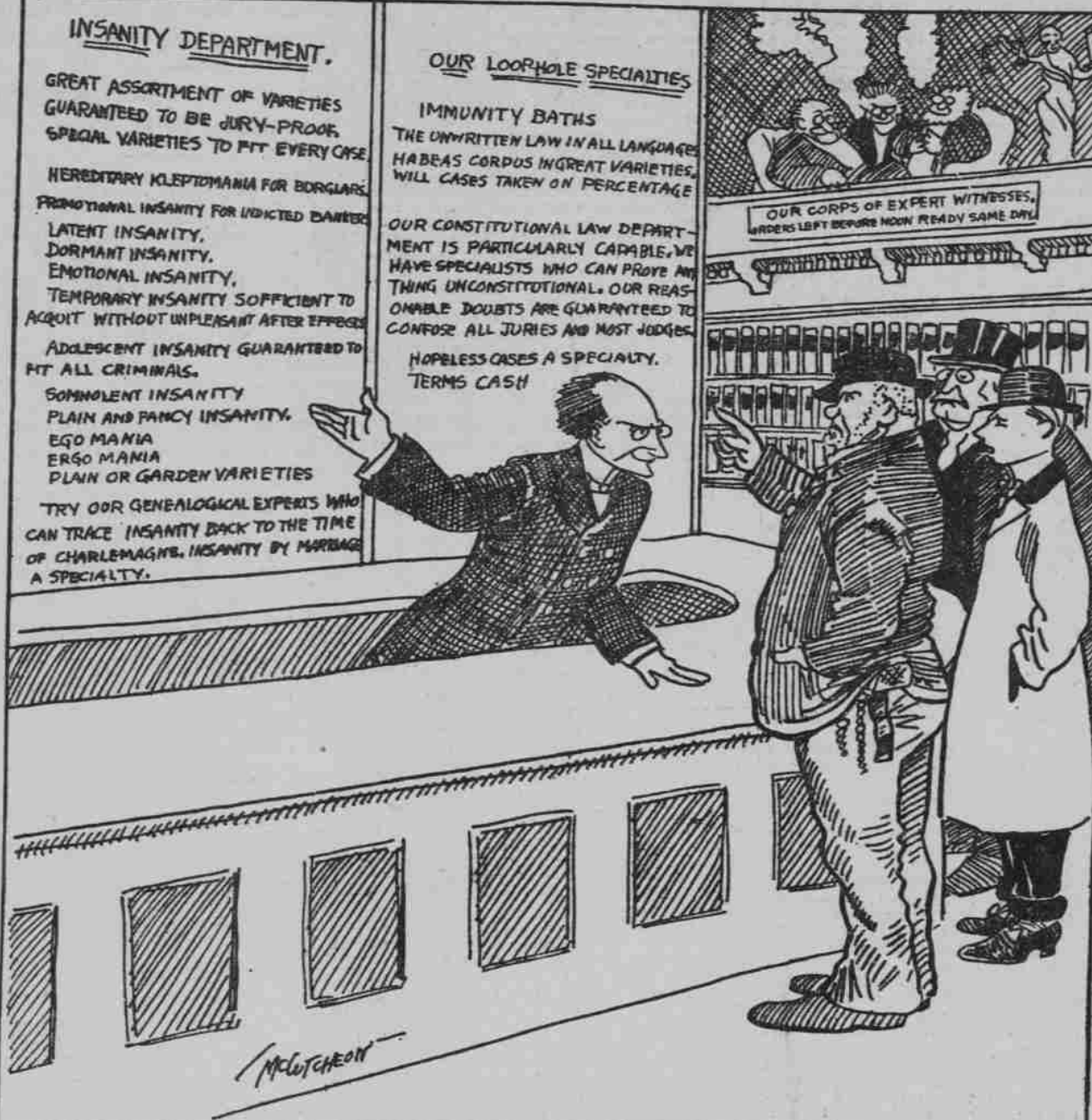
Demand Primary and Recall. The resolutions demand a reduction of the tax and an increase of the free list; a fellow servant law that will effectively "safeguard the interests of workmen employed by individuals or corporations and protect their families." An income tax, retrenchment in government expenses and a reduction of the standing army; the election of United States senators, federal judges and the interstate commerce commissioners by the direct vote of the people. The resolution further states:

"We also demand primary elections for the nomination of all candidates for elective offices; the initiative and referendum in all lawmaking and the recall of public officials when they have become derelict in duty; the reform of

## THE LAW OFFICE OF THE NEAR FUTURE.

By John T. McCutcheon.

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## HITS BROKEN RAIL

Wreck on the Chicago Great  
Western in Iowa.Three Coaches Leave Track;  
25 Persons Injured.

Dunkerton, Iowa, March 14.—Twenty-five persons were injured, thirteen seriously and one probably fatally, in a wreck on the Chicago Great Western railway, three miles east of here, early this morning. The train which was passenger train No. 1, en route from St. Paul to Kansas City, struck a broken rail on a curve.

Fourteen passengers were taken to a hospital in Waterloo.

Three Pullmans and a day coach left the wreck on the Chicago Great Western railway, three miles east of here, early this morning. The train which was passenger train No. 1, en route from St. Paul to Kansas City, struck a broken rail on a curve.

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## ENDS IN A FARCE

Platt Murder Arrest Due to  
Over Zealous Detectives.Confession Forced From Boyle  
by Offers of Clemency.

## HE IS GIVEN HIS LIBERTY

County Attorney Says There's  
No Evidence to Hold Him.Issues Statement Telling Why  
He Declines to Act.

Refusing to rely on the confession forced from William D. Boyle, while the plumber was drunk, County Attorney Simon today ordered the release of the man arrested in St. Joseph in connection with the Benjamin Platt murder. In the county jail today Boyle declared that he had been threatened and drugged by private detectives who forced him to make a statement; and signed the confession after the men had promised leniency at the hands of the county attorney and governor. Still declaring his innocence of the murder of the North Topeka merchant, Boyle underwent a final interview this morning at the hands of the county attorney and his assistant. An hour later the man was released. H. C. Erickson and H. C. Medlock, together with a reporter for a morning paper worked the case against the plumber and secured his admission of crime. They did not hesitate to express their indignation when Boyle was released.

William D. Boyle, Platt Murder Sus-  
pect, Who Was Released Today.

At the jail today, Boyle told of meeting Medlock and Charles Russell, a carpenter. They urged him not to work Monday and Boyle was in their company that day and until late at night. He spent the entire day Tuesday with them and after his arrest that night was the victim of third degree tactics that continued until 9 o'clock Wednesday morning, when the man signed a statement admitting the murder of Platt.

"It was snowing Monday," Boyle said as he told his story at the jail, "and when I met Medlock and the carpenter, they invited me to go to a saloon. We took several drinks. Then they told me not to work that day. 'We have plenty of money and will have a good time,' Medlock told me. So we visited a number of saloons and after supper I met the men. The saloon kept me there until 4 or 5 o'clock during the day and night," continued Boyle, as he rubbed his head in a dazed sort of way. "We began to play pitch and that's the last thing I remember. They say I admitted killing old man Platt. God knows if I did I don't remember it now and it's not so."

Shows Effects of Spree. Boyle showed the effects of his drunken spree. His face was flushed and swollen and the man's hands shook as one with palsy. As he talked to a visitor, Boyle leaned his head on his hands, but looked his questioner squarely in the eyes and continued to repudiate any statement that he was guilty of murder.

"All right Tuesday they kept after me to admit that I had killed Platt," continued Boyle, "and I told them I didn't do it. You know that," said Boyle as he looked at James McClure, an assistant county attorney. "Once I asked for a drink. I seemed to be burning up. They wouldn't let me get it myself, but brought me something in a cup. It had a milky look and I don't know what was in it. I guess I drank about half of the stuff. Then they started in on me again. They said my friends had left me, that they would convict me of first degree murder if I didn't confess. 'If I didn't confess I would let you go, but if you were going to cause me trouble, I wanted it just as light as possible. I signed something, but didn't read it. Medlock and Erickson said it was a promise to come here without getting papers from the governor. Then Medlock said they would get me out with a year or two. He said Erickson had lots of influence with the governor and county attorney and would find me a good place. 'Still I told them I wasn't guilty, but they said they would send me to the penitentiary. Once when I refused to sign the paper, Medlock leaned over me and said, 'If you don't admit you killed the Jew, I will knock your head off. They had been with me all night and I had been awful drunk. I told them that I would admit you killed the Jew, I wasn't guilty and could prove that I didn't kill Platt. I guess I didn't know just what I was doing

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## SHOT AT THE KING

An Italian Anarchist in Rome  
Fired Three TimesAt Victor Emmanuel, but  
Failed to Hit Him.

## AN OFFICER OF THE GUARD

Was Dangerously Wounded by  
One of the Bullets.Assassin Is Arrested and Nar-  
rowly Escapes Lynching.

Rome, March 14.—An attempt was made to assassinate King Victor Emmanuel this morning. Several shots were fired at the king, but all missed their target and his majesty escaped unhurt. His assailant was arrested.

KING VICTOR  
EMMANUEL  
Who Was Shot at by an Anarchist  
Today.

The king was just leaving the palace on his way to the Pantheon to attend the annual memorial service in honor of his father, King Humbert. A young man fired several shots from behind the crowd in the streets. One of the officers of the king's body guard fell dangerously wounded, but the king was untouched.

The crowd attempted to lynch the youth. The police finally rescued him. The king was unharmed. He continued on his way after only a brief stop and sat through the Pantheon services without a sign of emotion.

The assassin gave his name as Antonio Dalba, and declared that he was an individualist anarchist.

Three Shots Rang Out. The attempt on the king's life was made as his majesty with Queen Helena was going from the palace to the Pantheon to take part in the annual memorial service in honor of the late King Humbert. The royal carriage was preceded and followed by an escort of cuirassiers.

The procession was passing along the Via Lata when three shots rang out from amid the crowd. The soldiers following the carriage immediately dashed forward and as they did so their commander fell from his horse. The wounded officer was moved to one side by some of his men while the others dashed up to the royal carriage where they found the king and queen sitting calm and unmoved.

Meanwhile the crowd seized the man who had fired the shots and attempted to lynch him. He was so badly handled that he was scarcely able to answer questions when he was handed over to the police. The royal procession was scarcely interrupted, but proceeded toward the Pantheon, where the king and queen were met by the police.

The royal procession was scarcely interrupted, but proceeded